201 LTF FRG NEWS BRIEF

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KODIAK'S CORNER

Greetings!! Things have settled down quite a bit since we arrived in Kosovo. During the first week our focus was conducting inventories on our equipment and conducting transitions with our 299th FSB counterparts. The soldiers have quickly adapted to their new environment and mission. MWR facilities are excellent here and there are plenty of opportunities for soldiers to take college courses free of cost. This week we conducted MEDEVAC training and some lucky soldiers had a chance to fly on a MEDEVAC helicopter. In the upcoming weeks we will continue to do our normal mission support functions and we will also conduct quality training such as weapons ranges, Drivers Training and Land Navigation Training.

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"Battle Support"

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BRAVO BLADE

Greetings all from the hilly land of Kosovo. The mighty Bravo Blades arrived at Camps Bondsteel , Montieth, and McGrath and we quickly began to transition with the Bravo Bandits of the 299th FSB. Being our sister unit the transition was a smooth one, and we were able to cover down on the systems they have set up over the last six months they were here. We bid a fond farewell to the Bandits the other day, and we fully took over the maintenance mission in Kosovo. This is not our first time in the Balkans, in fact we've moved into the facilities we started to build the last time we were here. The buildings and infrastructure have been completed and we are all working out of covered bays. 2-2 MST and a few soldiers from the base have occupied and established operations on Camp Montieth. SSG Rodriguez and crew are set-up on relatively flat terrain with a running track. 2-63 MST was held up on Camp Bondsteel for a couple of days while SSG McNelly made arrangements for them at Camp McGrath. Their set-up is also relatively flat, of course their base camp is the size of a one mile track so their run is pretty mundane. The rest of us set-up on Camp Bondsteel have the joy of Radar Hill, which we have termed "Ordnance Hill" because of it's sheer size and the pain involved with running it; one trip around the camp will log in 6.2 miles. We are now fully entrenched on our respective base camps and ready

SCHOOL VISIT

Soldiers from the 201st Task Force get a chance to spend some time with local school children. The 201st adopted this Serbian school and we are currently helping to construct a fence for the school on Saturdays. The soldiers enjoy spending time away from the base camp and interacting with the locals. Kids are the same the world over.

MEDEVAC TRAINING

Last Sunday the soldiers participated in son realistic medical evacuation training on the helipad near our offices. Some of the soldie were playing the role of casualties got a fre the Blackhawk helicopters during the traini Everyone had a great time.

CSM LADY VISITS THE 201st

CSM Lady, the USAREUR Command Sergeant Major, recently visited the soldiers of the 201st LTF. Here he is seen talking with SGT Desuza and SPC Smith, who work with Bravo Company. Some soldiers were selected to attend a breakfast with the CSM and share their views on the deployment thus far.

NCO'S LEAD THE WAY!

Every Saturday CSM Frey invites the NCO' battalion to join him for some physical fitne training. Last week they ran the perimeter Camp Bondsteel, six miles of grueling hills. week was rifle PT with a lot of motivation a smiles from everyone attending. We love PT

LETTERS FROM KOSOVO

Every week the news letter staff will invite two soldiers to share a letter home with the Battalion and their family. It's a great way to share news and interests they have and let folks back home know that we are thinking of you and we miss you!

SSG CHERYL ALONSO

My name is SSG Cheryl Alonso, I first met up with the 201st for the MRE exercise we had in September to prepare us for this deployment, it was a challenge to be an outsider to a unit, but 201st made us all feel welcomed into their family.

I am attached to HHC 201st for this deployment to Kosovo. I work in the GSO section in the SPO shop. My unit back in Germany is HHC DISCOM, located in Kitzingen, Germany.

Here in Kosovo the Dining Facility is outstanding and as you can see on the previous page CSM Frey is working it all out of us!!

The MWR here is treating us well and they do a great job of having extra activities for us to do to occupy our free time.

I want to take this opportunity to tell my loved ones how much I miss them and love them.

SSG KEVIN HOLLAND

Greetings from Kosovo!

I'd like to wish everyone back home happ holidays and say thank you to everyone wh helped make the move down here a relative pleasant one. The trip was long with some v around in places, but that's to be expected everyone kept their spirits up..

So we are finally here, what's to tell? The is great, almost too great. Staying in shape i going to be a challenge. Luckily the Sergean has been helping us out with that. I keep tel him he's getting soft but we'll toughen him u the next few months.

To my wife Sabine,

Thank you for all you do, your love and supp give me strength. You are my rock that I can to when things don't look so bright. I love yo miss you with all my heart. Keep the care pa coming and the e-mails and letters. I love to from you. Try not to spend the next six mon watching "Ally Mcbeal" with your mother! (H See everyone in the summer!